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Report of the Commission on Population and Development acting as the preparatory committee for the twenty-first special session of the General Assembly

Report of the Commission on Population and Development acting as the preparatory committee for the twenty-first special session of the General Assembly on its resumed session

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I. Introduction

1. By its resolution 52/188 of 18 December 1997, the General Assembly decided to convene a special session for a duration of three days from 30 June to 2 July 1999 in order to review and appraise the implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development (twenty-first special session). It also decided that the Commission on Population and Development should serve as the preparatory body for the final preparations for the special session. The Commission on Population and Development acting as the preparatory committee for the special session held the first part of its session from 24 March to 1 April 1999.[1] By its decision 53/482 of 8 June 1999, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the Commission acting as the preparatory committee in its decision 1999/PC/2, decided to authorize the preparatory committee to hold a resumed session from 24 to 29 June 1999 in order to finalize its work.

II. Organization of the session

A. Opening and duration of the session

2. The Commission on Population and Development acting as the preparatory committee for the special session of the General Assembly on the review and appraisal of the implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development held its resumed session at United Nations Headquarters from 24 to 29 June 1999. It held 3 meetings (7th to 9th) and a number of informal meetings.

3. The Chairman opened the resumed session and made a statement.

B. Attendance

4. In accordance with paragraph 8 of General Assembly resolution 42/188, the Commission acting as the preparatory committee was open-ended to allow the full participation of all States.

5. The following States were represented at the resumed session: Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Bahamas, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bolivia, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burundi, Canada, Cambodia, Central African Republic, Chile, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Czech Republic, Denmark, Egypt, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Eritrea, Fiji, Finland, France, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Holy See, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kiribati, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Samoa, Senegal, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa,

[1] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Twenty-first Special Session, Supplement No. 1* (A/S-21/2).

Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Sweden, Swaziland, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

6. The observer for Palestine attended the session.

7. The following United Nations bodies were represented: Department of Economic and Social Affairs (Population Division), Economic Commission for Africa, Economic Commission for Europe, Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean, Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia, Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS, United Nations Children's Fund, United Nations Population Fund.

8. The following specialized agencies were represented: International Labour Organization, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, World Health Organization, World Bank, International Monetary Fund, United Nations Industrial Development Organization.

9. The following intergovernmental organizations were represented by observers: African Development Bank, Asian-African Legal Consultative Committee, Commonwealth Secretariat, Council of Europe, European Community, International Organization for Migration, Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development, Organization of African Unity, Organization of the Islamic Conference.

10. A large number of non-governmental organizations attended the session.

C. Officers of the preparatory committee

11. The officers of the Commission acting as the preparatory committee were elected at its 1st meeting, on 24 March 1999,[2] and also officiated at its resumed session.

D. Agenda

12. The agenda of the Commission acting as the preparatory committee was adopted at its 1st meeting, on 24 March 1999,[3] and was unchanged for its resumed session.

E. Documentation

13. The Commission acting as the preparatory committee had before it the following documents at its resumed session:

(a) Letter dated 26 April 1999 from the Permanent Representative of Japan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, transmitting the text of the Hague Declaration of Parliamentarians on the International Conference on Population and Development Review (E/CN.9/1999/PC/5);

[2] Ibid., chap. II, sect. C.

[3] Ibid., sect. D.

(b) Note by the Secretariat containing a list of non-governmental organizations recommended for accreditation to the special session (E/CN.9/1999/PC/6);

(c) Draft report of the Commission acting as preparatory committee on its resumed session (E/CN.9/1999/PC/L.4);

(d) Revised working paper submitted by the Chairman containing proposals for key actions for the further implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development (E/CN.9/1999/PC/CRP.1/Rev.2 and 3).

III. Preparation for the special session of the General Assembly

14. The Commission acting as the preparatory committee considered item 3 of its agenda, entitled "Preparation for the special session of the General Assembly", at its 7th, 8th and 9th meetings, on 24, 25 and 29 June 1999, as well as at informal meetings. The Commission had before it the following documents:

(a) Revised working paper submitted by the Chairman containing proposals for key actions for the further implementation of the Programme of Action for the International Conference on Population and Development (E/CN.9/1999/PC/CRP.1/Rev.3);

(b) Note by the secretariat containing a list of non-governmental organizations recommended for accreditation to the special session (E/CN.9/1999/PC/6).

Action taken by the Commission acting as the preparatory committee

A. List of non-governmental organizations recommended for accreditation to the special session

15. At its 8th meeting, on 29 June 1999, the Commission acting as preparatory committee decided to accredit to the special session the non-governmental organizations listed in document E/CN.9/1999/PC/6 which fulfilled the criteria set out in subparagraph (b) of its decision 1999/PC/1 (see chap. V, decision 1999/PC/3).

B. Proposals for key actions for the further implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development

16. At its 9th meeting, on 29 July 1999, the Commission acting as the preparatory committee had before it the revised working paper submitted by the Chairman on proposals for key actions for further implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development (E/CN.9/1999/PC/CRP.1/Rev.3). The Chairman drew the attention of the preparatory committee to an informal paper containing paragraphs agreed to as a result of the negotiations held in the informal meetings.

17. At the same meeting, following statements by the representatives of the Holy See, the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Turkey, Germany, Morocco, El Salvador and the Sudan, the Commission acting as the preparatory committee decided to transmit the text contained in document E/CN.9/1999/PC/CRP.1/Rev.3, as revised, to the General Assembly at its twenty-first special session for further consideration (see chap. V, decision 1999/PC/4).

IV. Adoption of the report of the Commission acting as the preparatory committee on its resumed session

18. At its 9th meeting, on 29 June 1999, the Commission acting as the preparatory committee had before it the draft report on its resumed session (E/CN.9/1999/PC/L.4).

19. At the same meeting, the Commission adopted the draft report and authorized the Vice-Chairman-cum-Rapporteur to finalize it.

V. Decisions adopted by the Commission acting as the preparatory committee

20. The Commission on Population and Development acting as the preparatory committee for the twenty-first special session of the General Assembly adopted the following decisions at its resumed session:

Decision 1999/PC/3

Non-governmental organizations accredited to the twenty-first special session of the General Assembly in accordance with subparagraph (b) of preparatory committee decision 1999/PC/1

At its 8th meeting, on 25 June 1999, the Commission on Population and Development acting as the preparatory committee for the twenty-first special session of the General Assembly decided to accredit to the special session the following non-governmental organizations, which fulfilled the criteria set out in subparagraph (b) of its decision 1999/PC/1:

Action Canada for Population and Development
Association des démographes marocains (ADEMA)
Australian Reproductive Health Alliance, Inc. (ARHA)
Austrian Foundation for World Population and International Cooperation (SWI)
Botswana National Youth Council (BNYC)
Center on International Cooperation (CIC)
Centre for Partnership in Development (DIS)
Coopérative des femmes pour l'éducation, la santé familiale et l'assainissement (COFESFA)
DKT International
Equidad de Género: Ciudadanía, Trabajo y Familia
HelpAge India
Institute of Population Research, Peking University
Institute of Women and Ethnic Studies
Mauritanian Association for Development and Environment Protection (MADEP)
Mujer y Salud en Uruguay (MYSU)
Namibia Planned Parenthood Association (NAPPA)
National Abortion and Reproductive Rights Action League (NARAL)
National Abortion Federation
National Asian Women's Health Organization (NAWHO)
National Federation of Youth Organisations in Bangladesh (NFYOB)

Philippine NGO Council on Population, Health and Welfare, Inc. (PNGOC)
Radin Institute for Family Health Education and Promotion (RIFHEP)
United States Committee for the United Nations Population Fund
Wallace Global Fund

Decision 1999/PC/4

Proposals for key actions for the further implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development

At its 9th meeting, on 29 June 1999, the Commission on Population and Development acting as the preparatory committee for the twenty-first special session of the General Assembly decided to transmit the text entitled "Proposals for key actions for the further implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development", annexed to the present decision, to the General Assembly, at its twenty-first special session for further consideration.

Annex

[For the text, see document A/S-21/2/Add.2]